

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph at page 15, paragraph 0057, with the following amended paragraph:

“Ribozyme” as the term is used herein, refers to an enzyme that is made of RNA.

Ribozymes are involved in the cleavage and/or ligation of RNA chains. In preferred embodiments of the present invention, “hammerhead ribozymes” are used. As described above, hammerhead ribozymes cleave the phosphodiester bond of a target RNA downstream of a GUX triplet where X can be C, U, or A. Hammerhead ribozymes used in methods of the present invention have a structural domain having the sequence 3'-

~~CAAAGCAGGAGCGCCUGAGUAGUC-5'~~ 5'-CUGAUGAGUCCGCGAGGACGAAAC-3'

(SEQ ID NO:3). Site specific regulatory elements, such as site specific ribozymes, are provided in accordance with the present invention. The ribozyme regulatory element is made site specific, having the sequence 3'-X_n-~~CAAAGCAGGAGCGCCUGAGUAGUC-5'~~ 5'-Y_m-CUGAUGAGUCCGCGAGGACGAAAC-X_n-3' ((SEQ ID NO:4)-~~reported in 5' to 3' direction~~),

where X and Y are complementary to regions of the target mRNA flanking the GUC site and n+m are generally from about 20 to about 35 RNA bases in length. n+m need not be of equal lengths although it is preferable that neither n nor m is less than about 10.